



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

11/10/07

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/052,163	01/17/2002	Syoichiro Yoshiura	56892 (70904)	3184
21874	7590	12/17/2007	EXAMINER	
EDWARDS ANGELL PALMER & DODGE LLP			GARCIA, GABRIEL I	
P.O. BOX 55874			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
BOSTON, MA 02205			2625	
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
12/17/2007		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/052,163	YOSHIURA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Gabriel I. Garcia	2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11/13/07.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 20,25 and 26 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-19 and 21-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21 (2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-19, and 21-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nakagawa et al. (U.S. Patent Number 5,950,148, cited in the Office action dated 3/8/06).

Regarding claim 1, Nakagawa discloses a method for managing at least one electronic apparatus (copying machine 1) comprising the step of verifying in the electronic apparatus (copying machine 1) identification information of a portable terminal (portable terminal device 30) which demands apparatus management information with respect to the electronic apparatus (column 13, lines 3-6, and column 14, lines 10-19, whereby the process is not started until the operator's ID is entered, thereby verifying identification of a portable terminal), wherein the verifying step is carried out entirely in the electronic apparatus (reads on col. 16, lines 1-16, where the identification data is stored in the memory of the electronic device, allowing

the portable device to communicate with apparatus when the data identification data matches), and transmitting the apparatus management information that includes apparatus-specific maintenance information of the associated electronic apparatus to the portable terminal which demanded the apparatus management information (see Figs. 5A-5B, and 7, column 10, line 39-column 11, line 27, and column 12, lines 10-22).

Regarding claim 2, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 1, and further teaches of causing the electronic apparatus to regularly perform a maintenance management of the electronic apparatus and store the apparatus management information (column 11, lines 10-49).

Regarding claim 3, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 1, and further teaches of causing the portable terminal to transmit the apparatus management information which was acquired to an apparatus management center where apparatus management of a plurality of electronic apparatuses is performed synthetically (column 11, line 10-column 12, line 9).

Regarding claim 4, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 1, and further teaches of causing the electronic apparatus to transmit the latest apparatus management information to the portable terminal in accordance with the identification information of the portable terminal which demanded the apparatus management information with respect to the electronic apparatus (column 10, lines 5-column 11, line 49, and column 12, lines 23-42).

Regarding claim 5, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 1, and

further teaches of causing the electronic apparatus to transmit the apparatus management information relating to consumable goods to the portable terminal in accordance with the identification information of the portable terminal which demanded the apparatus management information with respect to the electronic apparatus (column 10, lines 5-column 11, line 49, and column 12, lines 23-42).

Regarding claim 6, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 1, and further teaches of causing the electronic apparatus to transmit the apparatus management information relating to the latest operating condition to the portable terminal in accordance with the identification information of the portable terminal which demanded the apparatus management information with respect to the electronic apparatus (column 10, lines 5-column 12, line 42).

Regarding claim 7, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 2, and further teaches of causing the portable terminal to transmit the apparatus management information which was acquired to an apparatus management center where apparatus management of a plurality of electronic apparatuses is performed synthetically (column 11, line 10-column 12, line 9).

Regarding claim 8, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 2, and further teaches of causing the electronic apparatus to transmit the latest apparatus management information to the portable terminal in accordance with the identification information of the portable terminal which demanded the apparatus management information with respect to the electronic apparatus (column 10, lines 5-column 11, line

49, and column 12, lines 23-42).

Regarding claim 9, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 2, and further teaches of causing the electronic apparatus to transmit the apparatus management information relating to consumable goods to the portable terminal in accordance with the identification information of the portable terminal which demanded the apparatus management information , with respect to the electronic apparatus (column 10, lines 5-column 11, line 49, and column 12, lines 23-42).

Regarding claim 10, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 2, and further teaches of causing the electronic apparatus to transmit the apparatus management information relating to the latest operating condition to the portable terminal in accordance with the identification information of the portable terminal which demanded the apparatus management information with respect to the electronic apparatus (column 10, lines 5-column 12, line 42).

Regarding claim 11, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 3, and further teaches of causing the electronic apparatus to transmit the latest apparatus management information to the portable terminal in accordance with the identification information of the portable terminal which demanded the apparatus management information with respect to the electronic apparatus (column 10, lines 5-column 11, line 49, and column 12, lines 23-42).

Regarding claim 12, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 3, and further teaches of causing the electronic apparatus to transmit the apparatus management information relating to consumable goods to the portable terminal in

accordance with the identification information of the portable terminal which demanded the apparatus management information with respect to the electronic apparatus (column 10, lines 5-column 11, line 49, and column 12, lines 23-42).

Regarding claim 13, Nakagawa discloses the method discussed above in claim 3, teaches of causing the electronic apparatus to transmit the apparatus management and further information relating to the latest operating condition to the portable terminal in accordance with the identification information of the portable terminal which demanded the apparatus management information with respect to the electronic apparatus (column 10, lines 5-column 11, line 49, and column 12, lines 23-42).

Regarding claim 14, Nakagawa discloses an electronic apparatus (host computer 40) comprising apparatus-side communication controlling means (see Fig. 3, being the components of host computer 40) for communicating with at least one portable terminal (portable terminal device 30), the apparatus-side communication controlling means (see Fig. 3) including inside-apparatus management information storage means for storing the apparatus management information of a main body of the electronic apparatus in plural levels (column 10, lines 5-59, and column 14, lines 10-59), identification information storage means for storing identification information to identify the portable terminal of a communicating party (see Figs. 5A-5B, and 7, column 10, line 39-column 11, line 27, column 12, lines 10-22, and column 14, lines 10-59), and apparatus-side controlling means for identifying the portable terminal in accordance with the

identification information in the identification information storage means when a demand for the apparatus management information of the electronic apparatus from the portable terminal (see Figs. 5A-5B, and 7, column 10, line 39-column 11., line 27, column 12, lines 10-22, and column 14, lines 10-59), and for transmitting the apparatus management information that includes apparatus-specific maintenance information of the associated electronic apparatus of the level in accordance with the portable terminal from the inside-apparatus management information storage means (see Figs. 5A-5B, and 7, column 10, line 39-column 11, line 27, column 12, lines 10-22, and column 14, lines 10-59). Wherein verification of the identification information of the portable terminal is carried out entirely on the electronic apparatus (reads on col. 16, lines 1-16, where the identification data is stored in the memory of the electronic device, allowing the portable device to communicate with apparatus when the data identification data matches).

Regarding claim 15, Nakagawa discloses the apparatus discussed above in claim 14, and further teaches that the inside-apparatus management information storage means regularly stores maintenance management information (column 10, lines 5-column 12, line 42).

Regarding claim 16, Nakagawa discloses the apparatus discussed above in claim 14, and further teaches that the inside-apparatus management information storage means stores the apparatus management information relating to consumable goods (column 10, lines 5-24, and column 12, lines 23-42).

Regarding claim 17, Nakagawa discloses the apparatus discussed above in claim 14, and further teaches that the inside-apparatus management information storage means stores the apparatus management information relating to the latest operating condition (column 10, lines 5-column 11, line 49).

Regarding claim 18, Nakagawa discloses the apparatus discussed above in claim 15, and Nakagawa further teaches that the inside-apparatus management information storage means stores the apparatus management information relating to consumable goods (column 10, line 5-column 12, line 42).

Regarding claim 19, Nakagawa discloses the apparatus discussed above in claim 15, and further teaches that the inside-apparatus management information storage means stores the apparatus management information relating to the latest operating condition (column 10, lines 5-column 11, line 49).

Regarding claims 21 and 23, Nakagawa discloses the method and apparatus discussed alcove in claims 1 and 14, respectively, and further teaches of performing at least one of copying, printing, and facsimile on the electronic apparatus (column 8, line 46-column 9, line 59).

Regarding claims 22 and 24, Nakagawa discloses the method and apparatus discussed above in claims 1 and 14, respectively, and further teaches of supplying the apparatus management information without input by a user (column 10, line 5-column 12, line 42).

Conclusion

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 20,25 and 26 are still allowed. The prior art of record does not teach a management system having the different means as recited in the independent claim 20.

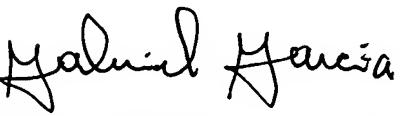
3. Applicant's arguments filed 11/13/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. With regard to Applicant's argument that Nagarawa does not teach or suggest a method for managing at least one electronic apparatus, in which verification of identification information of a portable terminal is carried out entirely in the electronic apparatus. Examiner disagrees with applicant's conclusion. Examiner asserts that Nagarawa does teach a method for managing at least one electronic apparatus, in which verification of identification information of a portable terminal is carried out entirely in the electronic apparatus (e.g. col. 13, lines 1-16). Examiner indicates that verification is done within the host. Examiner disagrees with Applicant's conclusion. Examiner asserts that the verification is performed within the copying machine, and it is send to the host computer as part of the service maintenance (see col. 2, lines 16-34).

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gabriel I. Garcia whose telephone number is (571) 272-7434. The Examiner can normally be reached Monday-Thursday from 7:30 AM-6:00 PM. The fax phone number for this group is (571) 273-8300.
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (571) 272-7402. The fax phone number

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.


Gabriel I. Garcia
Primary Examiner
December 16, 2007

GABRIEL GARCIA
PRIMARY EXAMINER